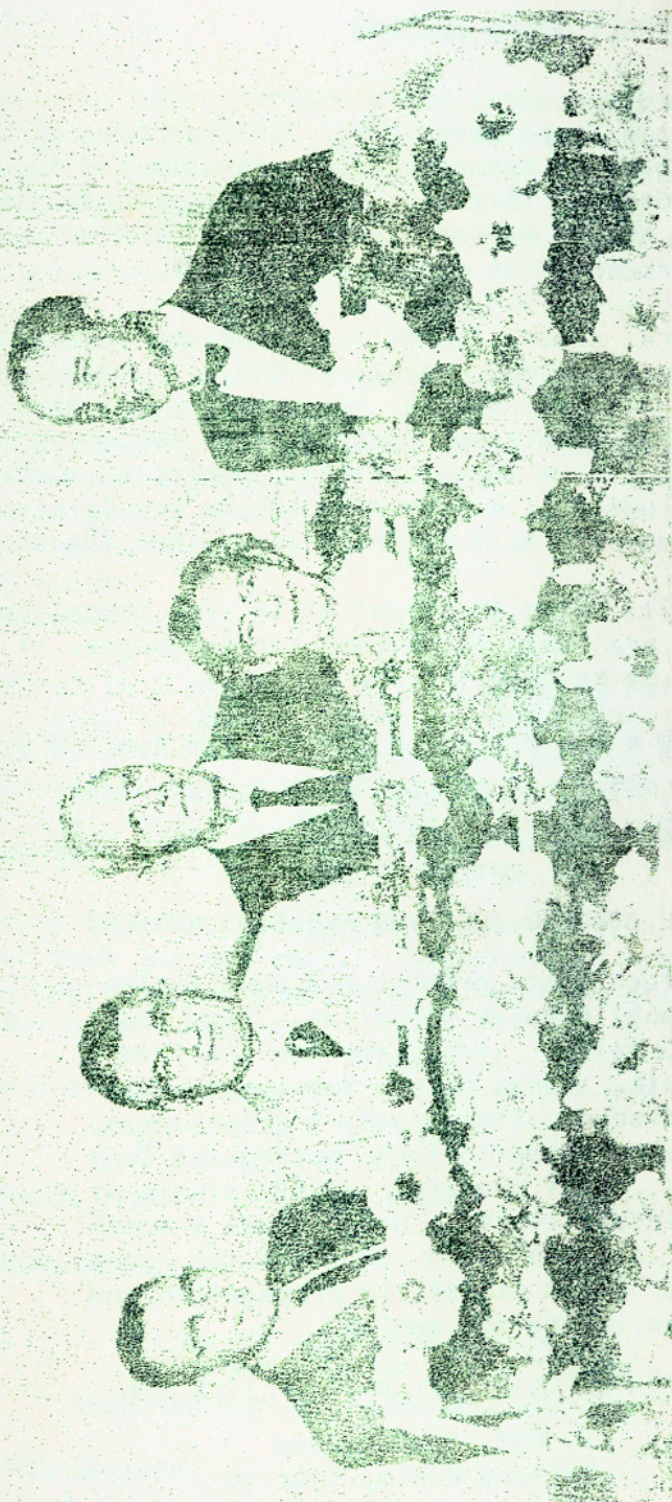


Forms "Norman Reasoner" Hibiscus Chapter



Officers and special guests are shown at the first meeting of the recently organized Norman A. Reasoner chapter, American Hibiscus Society in Bradenton, Florida. Left to right: Eric V. Golby, vice pres., Dr. Roxy Martin, Mt. Dora said to have the largest hibiscus collection in the country and past president of the Golden Triangle Chapter, Col. William A. Squires, Daytona Beach, president of the AHS, Mrs. Esther Levine, sec., and James Wallace, pres. Not shown is Roy Bradley, treas.

NEW HIBISCUS CHAPTER

The newest chapter of the American Hibiscus Society, organized in Bradenton, Florida has been fittingly named for the late Norman Reasoner, member of a well known nursery family (the Reasoner's Tropical Nurseries was founded in 1881), and avid hybridizer and devotee of the magnificent Hibiscus Rosa-sinensis.

Mr. Reasoner bore a banner for the perennially popular hibiscus long before the AHS was formed in 1950. He was its charter president. One of the most fitting material items that honors him today is the Norman Reasoner Hibiscus, a large clear yellow with white zone and red stamen pads.

The idea of a chapter has long fermented in the mind of Eric V. Golby who has been employed by the Reasoners' for many, many years. He took the initiative and ran ads in the Bradenton and Sarasota newspapers asking those who might be interested in a chapter to meet with him and his wife Sally, one Sunday afternoon in November.

More than 100 answered the call with the result that the Norman Reasoner Chapter was formed. On hand to aid and guide were members of the AHS executive board and presidents and past presidents of a number of chapters.

They included: Executive Secretary James Monroe, Past President Mrs. John M. Wylie, Ralph Philo of the James E. Hendry Chapter (also named for a late, outstanding hibiscus hybridizer and enthusiast), Walker Lyon, past president of the Sunset Chapter, Lee R. Trainor, president of the Ridge Chapter and many others.

James M. Wallace was named chairman pro tem, and the first meeting was called for December 8th, at which time permanent officers were elected to lead the 42 charter members.

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